



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

March 27, 2003

Dear Mr. Dinh:

It gives me great pleasure to write to you in support of President Bush's nomination of the Hon. Richard C. Wesley to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. I have known Dick Wesley since the early 1980s, when we served together in the New York State Assembly. When Dick chose to leave the Assembly in 1986 to run for judicial office, I knew that the people of New York would gain a jurist of unparalleled quality and the highest ethical standards.

Upon taking the bench, Judge Wesley earned a well deserved reputation for hard work, a keen intellect and well-reasoned decisions, which resulted in his 1994 designation to the Appellate Division, Fourth Department by then-Governor Cuomo. Judge Wesley excelled as an appellate jurist and in 1997, I appointed him to our State's highest court, the Court of Appeals, noting his wealth of experience, intellect, integrity and judicial temperament.

Although it will be very difficult to replace Judge Wesley on New York's highest court, I am honored and proud to support my friend and colleague's nomination to the Second Circuit. Judge Wesley has impeccable qualifications and character, and I can unequivocally state that there is no better candidate for such an important position.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "G. E. Pataki". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Viet D. Dinh
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Policy
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001